

CONNIE MACK DENIES ATHLETICS ARE POORLY PAID—REAL PITCHING ALL CLUB NEEDS

ARE ATHLETICS POORLY PAID? CONNIE MACK MAKES ANSWER

Federal Overtures to His Players and Their Refusal to Jump Cited As Real Test—Manager Asks Public to Keep in Mind the Ball Teams He Has Constructed.

Are the Athletics an underpaid team of ball players? For several years this assertion has been made by ball players and out-of-town scribes. They argue that since the organization of the wonderful Mack machine back in 1910, the players have been signing for smaller salaries than those paid elsewhere because they were figuring on the world's series. One writer contends that the departure of Collins, Bender and Plank caused Frank Baker to refuse to report because he signed for \$4500, believing that he had about \$3000 world's series money coming to him each fall with the wonderful machine intact. When Baker realized that the team could not win the pennant hands down, he balked on living up to his contract.

It is only fair to the Athletics to say that these guesses are guesses only. Perhaps there was a time when the Athletics got their players cheap. Is that to their discredit, if they can turn out championship teams with less money thrown away?

Federal Overtures Test for Athletics

This idea about the small salaries of the Athletics might still be strongly supported had it not been for the advent of the Federal League into the field. Manager Mack and the players have never paid any attention to these knocks, of which they are frequently reminded on the field by Washington, Boston and Detroit players, but they kept right on their merry way getting the money. When the Feds started, the Mackmen were considered the acme of perfection so far as ball playing was concerned. It was a team of stars which did not show their individualism, and the first thing the Federal League tried to do was to make a wreck of the Athletics, as they were also laboring under the delusion that it was a poorly paid aggregation of ball players.

Federal League agents were authorized to offer the Athletics handsome salaries, with a bonus to cover the world's series purse, which was apparently theirs for some years to come. Tom Fleming, one of these agents, told the EVENING LEDGER representative that he met with the surprise of his life when trying to do business with the Athletics.

Agent of Outlaws Had Eyes Opened

Six of the Athletics were offered contracts, which they carried around in their pockets for a long time, much to the displeasure of Manager Mack, but they were carried more for show than for any desire to sign. Fleming said that he had offered several of the players contracts which he believed they would sign, but was dumfounded when the players showed them contracts with the Athletics calling for just as much or more.

Fleming, after severing connection with the Federal League, wrote to Manager Mack for a position as scout, and also told the Athletics' leader of his unsuccessful efforts to sign Athletics' players. The EVENING LEDGER representative was in the office at Shibe Park with Manager Mack at the time and read the letter.

Mack Argues as to Value of Players

Manager Mack does not like to talk of the subject at all, but he does become very much excited when he gets under way. He says: "All that kind of stuff is sent out by the enemies of the Athletics' club. Our players are paid every cent they are worth, and I am positive that our salary list is as large, if not larger, than that of any club in the entire country. In the first place, it is none of the other fellow's business what I am paying my players. If the players want to tell the public, let them; but I won't."

"So far as not paying them what they are worth, that is a joke. Do you suppose for one minute that a player is going to sign with me for less money than he could get elsewhere? It was all right to pull that before the Federal League came into the field, because the knockers always had the alibi 'that the players could not get away'; but what about now?"

"One thing I have never found ball players modest about is their value to a ball club. They always have a pretty good idea of what they are worth, generally a much better idea than the manager. I know there are many fine examples of fair and square fellows in baseball, but my players would have been only human to have jumped to the Federal League if they were not being mightily well paid by me."

Cites Record of Teams He Has Built

"You might recall the letter I showed you last winter from Tom Fleming. Well, that does not look very much as though the men were underpaid. Maybe my players have counted on world's series money, but that did not prevent them from getting all that was coming to them before they signed. All players think that the world's series is their natural reward for being champions, and I think so, too. If any of my players ever signed for less money than he thought he was worth, I never knew of it. Most of my players in the last three or four years have signed at their own figures."

"I allowed Collins to go to Chicago because he wanted more money than any player is worth and more than I was willing to pay. I have built up more than one club and I will do it again. I think the public owes me this chance. I have always made good for them and will do so again. As for Baker, he signed at his own figure and that lets him out, but I will say that it was far considerably more than any one has yet stated."

Connie Mack Talks of Baseball Peace

In talking over the prospects of baseball peace, Manager Mack, of the Athletics, said yesterday: "I don't know anything about it. I am willing to go along just as I have in the past. I don't seek trouble. But what is to become of the Feds if they are taken in? What are we going to do with them?"

That is one question which has caused much speculation among baseball fans throughout the country, but one that should not trouble the National Commission or magnates of organized baseball. It has been the policy of organized baseball in the past to protect the interests of its various leagues, but those leagues must shift for themselves to a large extent. If they cannot keep their heads above water, they must sink, as have many minor leagues within the last two years.

Disposal of St. Louis Club Chief Task

From a distance it would seem the only thing of interest to organized baseball is to get rid of one of the clubs in St. Louis. If organized ball can do that, then it is fully protected. Chicago can stand three clubs because the South Side or White Sox fans rarely attend games at the National or Federal League parks in the northwest section of the city.

So long as there are no conflicting dates on the West Side, Chicago will prosper with three teams. It seems that the removal of the Feds from Chicago will be the greatest obstacle in the way of peace plans. The Feds will never give up Chicago. That much is certain, but it does not appear to be a large enough obstacle to prevent the three leagues finally getting together.

Continuance of War Seems Foolish

When one reasons it out it appears most foolish to continue the battle if the Feds are willing to give up St. Louis, and the owners of that club have admitted that they are willing to do this, if they can buy into one of the other clubs in St. Louis. Why should the magnates "cut throats" with disaster staring all parties in the face, when the Feds have proved that they cannot be starved out?

Principle and dignity are great things in their places, but they are overworked at times. The baseball war will end with the same disaster for all concerned if it is allowed to continue. If the Federals are going to blow up, Organized Ball also will blow up.

Athletics Look Great Behind Real Pitching

Bob Shawkey pitched a great game of ball yesterday against the Senators, and Griffith's men never really had a chance for victory. Shawkey was given a three-run lead and had no trouble holding it. Bentley, Griffith's young southpaw, who blanked the Athletics with one scratch hit a few days before the close of last season, was rudely treated in the one and one-third innings he pitched, and yet the youngster seemed to have everything a pitcher needed. Bentley's greatest fault was in wasting his fine curve ball continually and in grooving the fast one. Had he revered matters a different story might have been told.

As has been the case every time a good pitcher was on the mound, the Athletics looked like the champions of old. It only strengthens the belief that good pitching will make the Athletics a by far more serious pennant contender than some are willing to believe. The best club in the world will look bad with poor and unintelligent pitching, such as Mack has had to date.

Work of Lajoie a Notable Sign

Lajoie looked better yesterday than he has so far this season. He has had better days with the bat and accepted more chances in the field on several occasions, but it was the manner in which Lajoie performed his work yesterday that made it stand out. One play in particular was pleasing.

It was when Shawkey took a nasty bounder and tossed it to Larry, having a runner at second. There did not seem to be a chance for a double play with a fast man like Shanks going to first, but Lajoie whipped the ball to McInnis in time to complete the play. It was a simple double play, but it was a faster one than Larry has made in a long time. It presages better things for the future.

McInnis made several brilliant plays. His catch of a fly ball in right was a masterpiece. It was on a ball that he took straight over his shoulder "bar out to right and one of the hardest kind of hits to judge and handle."

A fine stop on a drive by Henry, which held the hit to a single, and several one-handed catches of badly thrown balls into the runner were other McInnis features.

PLAYERS IN STENTON-ARONIMINK MATCH



Stenton women golfers won yesterday over Aronimink, 3 to 2. Among the players of the two clubs are, from left to right—Miss Naomi Thackara, Miss Esther Thackara, both of Stenton, and Mrs. Jack Chesterman, of Aronimink.

NORTHEAST AGAIN TIES WEST PHILLY FOR LEAD; FRIENDS' CENTRAL WINS

Interscholastic League Lead in Deadlock Once More—Blue and Gray Nine Virtually Clinches Interacademic Pennant.

INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE STANDING.

Team	W.	L.	P.
West Philadelphia	6	2	750
Northeast	6	2	750
Central	4	4	500
Catholic	3	4	425
Southern	0	6	0

INTERACADEMIC LEAGUE STANDING.

Team	W.	L.	P.
Friends' Central	3	1	750
Penn Charter	2	2	500
Germantown	2	2	500
Episcopal	1	3	250

While Northeast High School and West Philadelphia High School again are sharing the top berth in the interscholastic league race, Friends' Central virtually clinched the championship of the inter-academic league. Northeast defeated Central High, 19-7, while Friends' Central won from Germantown Academy, 7-4, in games played yesterday afternoon.

Although Northeast was runner-up in the scholastic campaign, with the crimson and gold on their heels, the result of the contest was somewhat of a surprise. Central was playing in fine form, while it seemed as if the red and black boys were slipping. However, Keller was in corking condition and held the Broad and Green streets to nine hits.

Carris, Friends' Central's crack curver, was in splendid shape yesterday afternoon, and although he allowed eight safe blows to the Germantown batters, he fanned 12 of the opposition. Race, Germantown's center-fielder, was credited with half of the hits, but he was left on the bases each time.

Penn Charter won the other inter-academic league match by romping off with a 9-2 victory over the Episcopal nine. The Little Quakers' victory places them in second place.

Southern High School, as usual, was the recipient of a bad trimming, this time Catholic High School turning the trick by a 14-1 score. Greer twirled a corking contest for the Purple and Gold, holding the lowly Southwark nine to but four hits.

Penn Charter's tennis team added another victory to its long string by taking the Lower Merion High School racquetters into camp by 3 matches to 2. The Little Quakers won all of the singles.

FANNING

WITH GRANTLAND RICE

In the Wake of J. Coffey's Latest Hat to the shamrock—from hillside to hillside—
Lowland to upland and valley to crag;
Hail, sons of Erin, who gather together
Under the folds of the emerald flag;
Long have we waited the old leavel flying
Over a biok who was there with the prod.

"Erin go bragh!" is the echo replying
To fate at its worst from the clan of the sod.

So here's to the little green isle, me boys,
And here's to the Blarney Stone;
It's up with the cup in a snail, me boys,
Wherever the shamrock's flown;
Oh, the Lakes of Killarney are far, me boys,
But never a sea can sever;
Where Jeema has the prod, here's "the clan of the sod!"
And the little green isle forever.

If Jim Coffey continues his improvement and maintains the uplift he has established it is no part of any cinch that Jess Willard can mail his dome off in short order, as a number figure the case will be.

Willard would enter the ring with the edge his way, but not with any edge as thick as the distance between two Siberian outposts. Coffey has not only improved some 57 per cent, but he has the courage and the stamina to take his share of punishment. If the Dublin Giant takes in a bit more experience while Willard dabbles with a Wild West show, Ireland has the chance of her lifetime to put another heavyweight back at the top of the fistful hill.

The Next Fight
Willard is due a good, healthy vacation before he is forced to start active training again. But when he is due to don the harness of the big Irishman is the man he will have to meet and beat.

Willard will have the advantage of having old J. H. Championship sitting in his corner when the fur begins to fly, but he will have no part of a boob to boot. In a year from now the gentleman from Ireland and the Motorman's League will be a worthy opponent for any champion to meet in mortal combat.

Willard carries the margin in weight and power, but Coffey is above 6 feet and more than 200 pounds, and this, if the rest is there, is enough to go the distance.

The Big Four
Sir: Some days ago you desired to know who in America had a chance against Vardon, Ray, Taylor and Duncan at England's coming golf invasion. I think I can name at least four with a chance—Macdonald Smith, Walter Hagen, Chick Evans and Francis Ouimet—especially the two former, who, I happen to know, are pointing their play to the day of the American Open. They may not win, but they won't be far away.

Offside Plays
It may be that, according to the old saying, "Only the Braves deserve the 'flag,' but this will be of no material assistance if some one else grabs it. There are occasions in every game when it is just as well to sidestep a trimming and get ready for another start.

Boxer Maloney, of the St. Rita's Catholic Club, of this city, has been crowned 115-pound amateur boxing champion of the United States. He won the right to that title in Amateur Athletic Union championships held at San Francisco yesterday. The victory of the Philadelphia boy was generally expected as he has been without a peer in this section of the country. By winning, he has lived up to all the good things said about him by President George F. Pawling, of the Middle Atlantic Association.

President Pawling some time ago became interested in the clever little fighter, and upon his fine showing in Boston decided to send the local lad West. In the Boston trials he defeated all his men in the preliminary battles, but was said to have been a bit unfair in the final, when a Boston boy was given the decision after an extra period had been fought.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Clubs. W. L. Pct. Win. Loss.
Detroit..... 11 6 .727 729 .696
New York..... 11 6 .727 667 .611
Chicago..... 12 9 .571 .591 .545
Washington..... 9 9 .500 .526 .474
Boston..... 8 7 .533 .563 .500
Cleveland..... 9 11 .450 .466 .429
Athletics..... 6 12 .333 .368 .318
St. Louis..... 6 12 .333 .273 .227

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Clubs. W. L. Pct. Win. Loss.
Phillies..... 13 5 .722 .737 .684
Chicago..... 12 7 .632 .650 .600
Boston..... 10 8 .556 .579 .528
Cincinnati..... 10 8 .556 .556 .500
St. Louis..... 10 12 .455 .478 .435
New York..... 6 11 .353 .389 .333
Brooklyn..... 7 12 .368 .400 .350
Pittsburgh..... 6 12 .400 .429 .381

FEDERAL LEAGUE
Clubs. W. L. Pct. Win. Loss.
Pittsburgh..... 13 6 .684 .700 .667
Brooklyn..... 13 9 .591 .609 .566
Chicago..... 12 9 .571 .591 .545
Newark..... 12 9 .571 .591 .545
Kansas City..... 12 9 .571 .591 .545
Baltimore..... 7 14 .333 .354 .311
St. Louis..... 6 14 .300 .333 .282

SEVEN MACKMEN AND FOUR PHILS HAMMERING PELLET AT .300 CLIP

First Basemen McInnis and Luderus Lead Their Team-mates, Fournier, of White Sox, Tops American—Groh, of Cincinnati, Heads National—Alexander Has 5 Wins and 1 Defeat.

Stuffy McInnis, who leads the Athletics' batmen with an average of .353, is tenth on the list in the American League. Fournier, of the White Sox, tops the batters with a .458 percentage. Cobb, of the Tigers, is seventh, while Jackson, Cleveland's heavy hitter, is 18th.

In the National League Groh, of Cincinnati, heads the list with .403 average. The leading Philly slugger is Luderus. His percentage is .377. Fennick, with three wins and two defeats, leads the Athletics in pitching. Daines, of the Tigers, tops the American League list with five victories. Boland, of Detroit, and Fisher and Caldwell, of New York, are also among the 1,000 pitchers.

None of the Philly pitchers is in the clean slate class in the National League, while Alexander has won five games and lost one, while Mayer has four victories and one defeat. Pierce, of the Cubs, leads the league with three wins and no defeats.

The averages up to and including last Thursday follow:

BATTING AVERAGES

League	Club	W.	L.	Pct.	Win.	Loss.
AMERICAN LEAGUE	Daily, Chicago	40	11	.727	729	.696
	Fournier, Chicago	40	11	.727	667	.611
	Cobb, Philadelphia	14	9	.609	591	.545
	Ruth, Boston	18	7	.720	526	.474
	Cobb, Detroit	67	24	.738	563	.500
	Graney, Cleveland	65	9	.875	466	.429
	McInnis, Philadelphia	60	12	.833	478	.435
	Vaughn, Detroit	63	8	.881	400	.350
	Strunk, Philadelphia	63	8	.881	354	.311
	Turner, Cleveland	23	4	.846	333	.282
NATIONAL LEAGUE	Adams, Pittsburgh	12	2	.857	700	.643
	Benton, Cincinnati	9	0	1.000	643	.589
	Schultz, Pittsburgh	27	0	1.000	545	.491
	Van Kleeft, Cincinnati	5	0	1.000	491	.447
	Goof, Chicago	70	18	.795	400	.350
	Smith, Boston	63	9	.875	354	.311
	Connolly, Boston	24	7	.774	303	.271
	Doyle, New York	17	12	.588	254	.231
	Killefer, Philadelphia	52	8	.867	244	.223
	Clifford, Philadelphia	22	5	.818	244	.223

Ten Leading Sluggers

League	Club	W.	L.	Pct.	Win.	Loss.
AMERICAN LEAGUE	Fournier, Chicago	28	38	.424	1,400	1,200
	Cobb, Detroit	2	3	.400	1,400	1,200
	Kennedy, Chicago	2	3	.400	1,400	1,200
	Kaufman, St. Louis	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Crawford, Detroit	5	4	.556	1,400	1,200
	Reese, Cleveland	4	4	.500	1,400	1,200
	Jackson, Cleveland	4	4	.500	1,400	1,200
	Boone, New York	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Rider, Chicago	4	7	.364	1,400	1,200
	Schmidt, Boston	7	1	.875	1,400	1,200
NATIONAL LEAGUE	Adams, Pittsburgh	28	38	.424	1,400	1,200
	Benton, Cincinnati	9	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Schultz, Pittsburgh	27	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Van Kleeft, Cincinnati	5	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Goof, Chicago	70	18	.795	1,400	1,200
	Smith, Boston	63	9	.875	1,400	1,200
	Connolly, Boston	24	7	.774	1,400	1,200
	Doyle, New York	17	12	.588	1,400	1,200
	Killefer, Philadelphia	52	8	.867	1,400	1,200
	Clifford, Philadelphia	22	5	.818	1,400	1,200

Menke, New York	30	5	13	13	333	Strunk, Athletics	5	2	0	31
Gleason, St. Louis	15	1	5	5	333	Roth, Chicago	1	0	0	25
Wright, New York	15	1	5	5	333	Bonne, New York	1	0	0	25
Fisher, Chicago	11	13	23	23	324	NATIONAL LEAGUE				
Ryder, St. Louis	20	5	5	5	324	2B.	3B.	HR.	TR.	
Wingo, Cincinnati	12	8	8	1	320	B	5	2	49	
Long, St. Louis	12	0	23	23	319	Kaiser, Chicago	7	5	2	49
Zimmerman, Brooklyn	21	2	16	21	319	Schmidt, Boston	7	7	1	37
Wingo, Cincinnati	15	2	16	21	319	Wright, New York	1	1	1	37
Schmidt, Boston	17	1	21	27	313	Becker, Phillies	1	1	4	26
Leach, Cincinnati	14	1	20	27	313	Johnson, Pittsburgh	1	1	2	43
Wingo, Cincinnati	14	1	20	27	313	Crawth, Phillies	1	1	2	43

Boxer Maloney Wins American 115 Title

League	Club	W.	L.	Pct.	Win.	Loss.
AMERICAN LEAGUE	Duane, Detroit	6	4	.600	1,400	1,200
	Boland, Detroit	6	4	.600	1,400	1,200
	Calwell, New York	4	4	.500	1,400	1,200
	Bena, Chicago	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Latke, Boston	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Jones, Cleveland	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Connolly, Boston	3	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Boehler, Detroit	2	1	.667	1,400	1,200
	Leaven, St. Louis	1	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Faber, Chicago	5	1	.833	1,400	1,200
NATIONAL LEAGUE	Stogsdress, New York	16	12	.571	1,400	1,200
	Bromberg, Chicago	16	12	.571	1,400	1,200
	Long, St. Louis	20	8	.714	1,400	1,200
	Melville, Cincinnati	20	8	.714	1,400	1,200
	Robertson, New York	14	4	.778	1,400	1,200
	Shulte, Chicago	19	19	.500	1,400	1,200
	Johnson, Pittsburgh	29	4	.875	1,400	1,200
	Kauff, Brooklyn	14	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Maguire, Brooklyn	14	0	1.000	1,400	1,200
	Flack, Chicago	15	15	.500	1,400	1,200

Flinter, Chicago	24	4	0	12	373	Zwilling, Chicago	5	1	2	37
Miller, New York	23	5	3	13	24	Swann, New York	4	1	2	37
Ladd, Boston	20	5	3	13	24	Wheeler, Chicago	2	0	3	21
Hanford, Chicago	40	13	14	26	367	Mann, Chicago	1	0	1	20
Cooper, Brooklyn	42	12	15	21	361	Trojan, Baltimore	1	1	1	20
Waller, New York City	38	12	14	20	358					
Schoer, Newark	40	16	23	25	348					
Bardeen, Baltimore	35	6	10	28	345					
Foster, Baltimore	35	6	10	28	345					
Waller, New York	37	10	14	22	341					
Zwilling, Chicago	70	10	24	37	341					
Myers, Brooklyn	33	9	11	13	313					
Myers, Brooklyn	33	9	11	13	313					

Ten Leading Base-stealers									
AMERICAN LEAGUE									
Player	W.	L.	Pct.	Win.	Loss.	G.	S.R.	Adv.	Age
Maisel, New York	10	6	.625	1,400	1,200	16			
High, New York	9	6	.600	1,400	1,200	16			